

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added.

Applicants submit that the amendment to claim 1 reads on the elected species of Group E, as shown in Fig. 6 of the specification. Specifically, claim 1 recites ". . . wherein the poly-V belt is composed of a plurality of pieces substantially divided in an axial direction of the driven poly-V pulley so that each piece of the poly-V belt has at least 2 and less than 6 of said projections . . .".

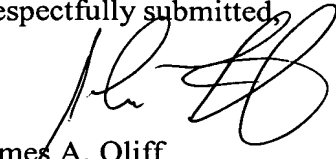
The Office Action also alleges that the claims do not show "the projections directly face each other to allow confronting side surfaces of adjacent pieces to come into contact with each other". Applicants submit that as discussed during the telephone interview of October 20, 2003, that Fig. 6 does show each of the walls is lower than the top surface and the side surfaces of the projections directly face each other to allow confronting side surfaces of adjacent pieces to come into contact with each other. Furthermore, as clearly shown in Fig. 6, each of the walls of the pulley is lower than the top surface of the belt and the side surfaces of the projections directly face each other to allow confronting side surfaces of adjacent pieces of the belt to come into contact with each other. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all of the features recited in the claims are shown in elected Fig. 6.

Applicants request that upon allowance of either generic claim 1 or 2, withdrawn claims 3-5 be rejoined and allowed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 6, as well as rejoinder and allowance of withdrawn claims 3-5 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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